CABLE ADDRESS "NALPAK"

J. M. KAPLAN
55 FIFTH AVENUE
NEW YORK 3, N.Y.

December 8, 1967

Lic. Victor Velasquez
Ave. San Francisco 1542
Mexico 12, D. F., Mexico

Dear Dr. Velasquez:

I was most happy to have your letter in Spanish and I am indeed quite capable of understanding and appreciating your graceful language. However, it is many years since I have lived in a Spanish-speaking country and I may have lost some of the facility in that language that I once possessed; so I shall take the liberty of replying to you in English, of which I know you have a full command.

It is most kind of you to transmit to me the letters to my brother, Henry, and me from our nephew, Joel. I know you have done everything in your power to assist this unfortunate young man and I want you to be assured that now that the matter seems to be beyond remedy in the courts, my brother and I are prepared to pursue any other proper legal and moral course that is likely to produce an effective result.

In this respect, we may need your helpful and expert advice and we hope we shall be able to seek your assistance. In any event, either my brother, Henry, or I should be visiting Mexico as soon as I clarify matters with Joel; and of course, before going to Mexico, Henry or I would want to communicate with you.

Joel's younger brother, Ezra, has promised to help heal all the unwarranted family misunderstandings.

For your private information, you should know that, other than yourself, all the people who have from time to time wanted to talk to me as presumed friends of

Joel concluded by asking for money. Not only is this degrading, but I feel that as long as any member of our family will hand over money in response to these demands and false promises, we hurt rather than help Joel. If, as I prefer to believe, Joel is an innocent victim of opportunists, every response to these demands for money assures still further that he will remain in prison.

I need not say that Henry and I have the highest trust and respect for you, both as a great legal mind and as a true friend. I therefore ask you to go to the trouble of personally delivering the enclosed letter to Joel. After you and he have read it, please take it back and keep it safely for him in a private file at your office, without showing it to anyone else, no matter how friendly he or she may appear to be. I also ask that you send me Joel's handwritten reply personally, without showing it to anyone else in Mexico City.

Of all the people who see Joel, you are the only one I am prepared to trust. Our object is to bring about his permanent release from prison, not to provide money to people who see in his continuing imprisonment an opportunity for getting additional money from his family.

You may of course show this letter to Joel, but aside from him no one else should see it, and it should go into the private file in your office along with the enclosure.

With warm personal regards and greetings,

Sincerely,

Jackie Kennedy

P. S. - Who is Pearl Gonzalez and what is her angle about wanting to see only me?

JMK:cd
Enc.